

3. (New) The method of claim 2 wherein said nucleic acid ligand assists in the identification of the regulatory region by having a similar structure to the DNA or RNA region.
4. (New) The method of claim 2 wherein said nucleic acid ligand is provided by the method comprising the steps of:
- a) contacting a candidate mixture of nucleic acids each of which have a randomized sequence with the protein, whereby nucleic acids having an increased affinity to the protein relative to the candidate mixture may be partitioned from the remainder of the candidate mixture;
 - b) partitioning the increased affinity nucleic acids from the remainder of the candidate mixture; and
 - c) amplifying the increased affinity nucleic acids to yield a ligand-enriched mixture of nucleic acids, whereby a nucleic acid ligand of the protein may be identified.
5. (New) The method of claim 2 wherein the DNA or RNA region is selected from the group consisting of a promoter, an origin of replication, a ribosomal binding site and a tRNA binding site.
6. (New) The method of claim 2 wherein the protein regulates transcription.
7. (New) The method of claim 2 wherein the protein regulates translation.
8. (New) The method of claim 2 wherein the protein is selected from the group consisting of transcriptional activators, transcriptional repressors, transcription complexes at promoter sites, replication accessory proteins, DNA polymerases, RNA polymerases and translational repressors.

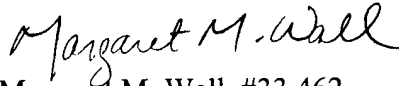
REMARKS

By the foregoing amendments, claim 1 has been canceled without prejudice and claims 2-9 have been added. Support for new claims 2-9 can be found in the

specification at page 54, line 31 to page 55, line 12; page 57, lines 20-29; page 62, line 32 to page 63, line 7; and Example 2.

It is believed that no fee is due with this submission. If this is in error, please charge any fee to Deposit Account No. 19-5117.

Respectfully submitted,



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